



## **Announcing New MCDS Data Portal**

FROM: Office of Data System Management

TO: Core Data, MOSIS Contacts

DATE: May 20, 2011

SUBJECT: Announcing New MCDS data portal

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is pleased to introduce to school administrators a new interactive website that will make education data easier to find and use.

Now in its infancy stage, the public side of the Missouri Comprehensive Data System (MCDS), also referred to as the department's "data portal," is now open at <http://mcds.dese.mo.gov>. You and your staff are invited to visit the Training Center for a virtual tour and to test drive the areas currently available, such as Student Characteristics and Student Assessment. Please watch for more content to be added in the coming days and weeks.

A series of webinars will be conducted in June and July to help school district personnel learn how to use the site, including the secure area of the site where confidential student-level data is maintained. Training sessions also will be offered at the Administrators Conference to be held July 31-Aug. 2 in Columbia.

School personnel, researchers and others will have a better way to access state education data collected through the department's Missouri Student Information System. This includes data for public schools, public charter schools and other entities that the Department maintains.

Leigh Ann Grant-Engle, assistant commissioner of the Office of Data System Management, presented the new system to the State Board of Education at its regular meeting held Wednesday.

The site provides tools that allow users to search and explore the data, create customized reports and view state and local profiles. It also can create charts and tables for trend and segmented data. Users can download their customized reports for further analysis.

Data is organized into eight broad categories: accountability, college and career, district and school information, early childhood education, student characteristics, education staff, state assessment and special education.